GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1978
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2001
IMPACT AND OUTCOME OF SUGAR AGREEMENTS
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Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have been approached by developing nations for the supply of sugar from India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government has taken some steps to supply sugar to the foreign countries;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the various international sugar agreements signed by the Union Government has affected the domestic sugar industry;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and
(g) the roles played by India in the International Sugar Organisations (ISO) and in the International Sugar Council?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (S SREENIVASA PRASAD)

(a),(b),(c)&(d): As per information of the Department of Commerce, Government of Maldives had requested for supply of 10,000 MTs of sugar, among other items, from India for the year 2001 in terms of Article IX of the Trade Agreement signed between the two countries on March 31, 1981. The High Commission of India.Male has been advised to issue border permits valid up to 31st December 2001 in favour of the Maldivian parties authorized by Government of Maldives to import 10,000 MTs of freesale sugar from India.

From October, 2000 to July, 15, 2001 a quantity of about 14.04 lakh tonnes sugar has been released for export to different countries. As on 23.7.2001, as per trade circles a quantity of about 8.11 lakh tones (Provisional) has been exported.

(e)&(f): India is a signatory to the International Sugar Agreement (ISA), 1992 which is currently in force. The objectives of the ISA, 1992 are as follows :

(a) To ensure enhanced international cooperation in connection with world sugar matters and related issues:

(b) To provide a forum for intergovernmental consultations on sugar and on ways to improve the world sugar economy:

(c) To facilitate trade by collecting and providing information on the world sugar market and other sweeteners:

(d) To encourage increased demand for sugar, particularly for non-traditional uses.

The objectives of the ISA, 1992 and the various information provided by the International Sugar Organization, set up under the International Sugar Agreements, are useful for the domestic sugar industry.

(g): India is a member of the International Sugar Organization and of the International Sugar Council set up under the International Sugar Agreement. Currently for the year 2001, India is the Chairman of the International Sugar Council of the international Sugar Organization. India is also a member of the Administrative Committee and Market Evaluation.Consumption and Statistics Committee of the International Sugar Organization.India hosted the 19th session of the International Sugar Organization held at New Delhi on 28th to 30th May, 2001.